



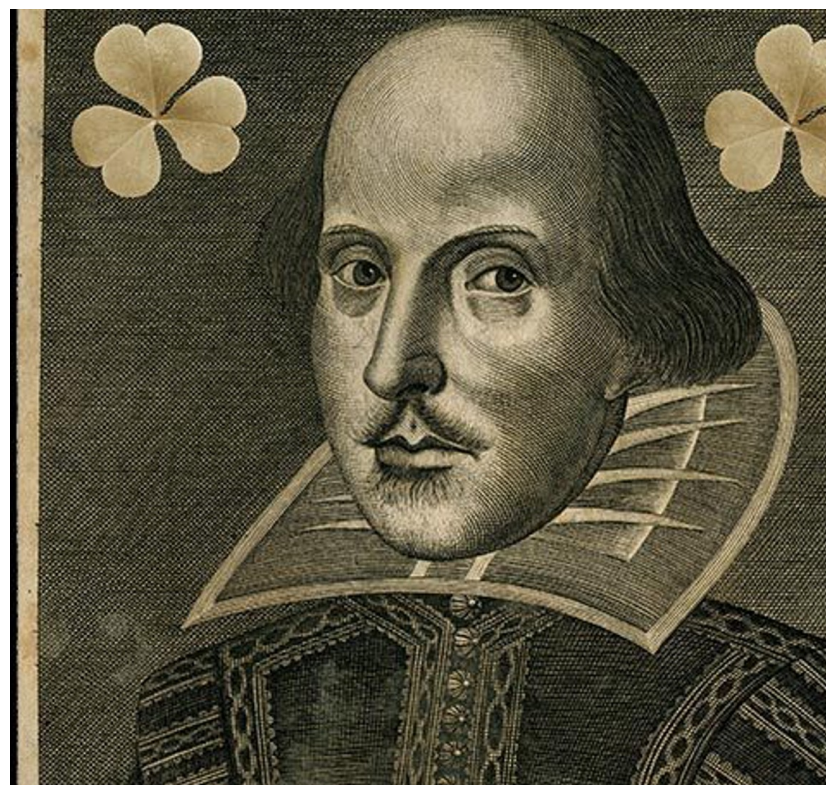
Ambasáid na hÉireann  
Embassy of Ireland

# Irish Studies Guest Lecture Series 2023

Prof. Andrew Murphy (Trinity College, Dublin)

## *Shakespeare's Irish Books: Unfolding Ireland's Folios*

Tuesday, 24 October 2023, 14.15-15.45 (Filozofski fakultet u Rijeci, F-006)



2023 marks the 400th anniversary of the publication of the first collected edition of Shakespeare's plays – the First Folio. Copies of the volume now sell for anything up to \$10,000,000 each and far and away the greatest number of surviving copies are held by institutions and private individuals in the US. But in the years following the publication of the volume a number of copies of the book made their way across the Irish Sea and into the libraries of some notable Irish collectors. This paper will outline a little of the history of the volume itself and will then turn to the Irish copies and their owners. It will tell the story of how possession of a copy of the First Folio became a mark of advanced culture in the colonial society of eighteenth-century Ireland.

**Andrew Murphy** is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and a fellow of Trinity College Dublin, where he is 1867 Professor of English. He has published extensively in the fields of Shakespeare studies and Irish studies. His authored books include *Shakespeare in Print: A History and Chronology of Shakespeare Publishing* (Cambridge University Press, second edition 2021) and *Ireland, Reading and Cultural Nationalism, 1790-1930* (Cambridge University Press, 2018). His edited volume *The Nation in British Literature and Culture* was published recently by Cambridge University Press. He is currently editing *Henry V* for the newest version of the Cambridge Shakespeare and his edited volume *Shakespeare in Ireland: Adaptations and Appropriations* will be published by Bloomsbury next year.

This guest lecture is kindly sponsored by the Embassies of Ireland in Croatia and Slovenia.